

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  47408+A	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See Form PCT/APEA/416																
International application No.  PCT/IT2004/000483	International filing date (day/month/year)  08.09.2004	Priority date (day/month/year)  12.09.2003																	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC  B32B29/06																			
Applicant  FABIO PERINI S.P.A.																			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</li> </ul> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the opinion</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the opinion	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand  01.04.2005	Date of completion of this report  13.09.2005																		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer  Girard, S Telephone No. +31 70 340-4187																		



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

**10/568535**  
International application No.  
PCT/IT2004/000483

**IAP20 Rec'd PCT/IATO 17 FEB 2006**

**Box No. I Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
    - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
    - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
    - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

**Description, Pages**

1-12 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-38 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

- The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
  - the description, pages
  - the claims, Nos.
  - the drawings, sheets/figs
  - the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
  - the description, pages
  - the claims, Nos.
  - the drawings, sheets/figs
  - the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-38
	No:	Claims	-
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-38
	No:	Claims	-
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-38
	No:	Claims	-

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

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REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

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**Re Item V****Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document): a laminated sheet of paper material, comprising at least a first ply and a second ply which are coupled to each other by means of glue, wherein said first ply has a first embossing in a direction according to at least one alignment, and the second ply is printed with a decorative pattern. A shading effect simulating a textile product is achieved thanks to the combination of the printed pattern and the embossing pattern, when observing the laminated sheet from a certain angle. The use of this laminated sheet in the manufacture of disposable products based on paper, especially paper towels, and method of making are as well disclosed therein (**claims 1-16,23; page 1, lines 10-23; page 1, line 23-page 2, line 4; page 3, lines 12-25; page 4, lines 8-18; page 5, line 30-page 6, line 13; page 6, line 40-page 7, line 4; page 7, lines 11-20**).
2. The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known D1 in that the decorative pattern of the second ply is responsible alone for the shading effect, which moreover gives the user a three dimensional feeling.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT). The same reasoning applies for the subject-matter of claim 20.

3. The effect linked with the additional technical feature of claim 1 is to improve the appearance of the sheet (see page 3, lines 23-28). The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as providing an aesthetically pleasing laminated sheet with the aspect of a three dimensional product.

Document D1 describes a three dimensional structure as such, made from an embossed sheet and a printed sheet; whereas the application discloses that the printing only gives the impression of a three dimensional relief. Starting from D1 or another document of the prior art, the skilled person would not select naturally such a printing, among all other possibilities for improving the appearance of a laminated paper sheet, in order to solve the

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International application No.  
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above mentioned problem. The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is thus considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

The subject-matter of claim 20 does accordingly involve an inventive step too (Article 33(3) PCT).

**4.** Claims 2-19 and 21-38 are dependent respectively on claims 1 and 20, and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.